

**Mark Greider**

from page 1)  
everyone. The full  
Robert and Harold,  
with their fam-

says the first  
"boys" insisted  
full conservation  
120 acres. This  
pleted in 1951.  
r strips were "laid  
the land and fen-  
to fit the strips.

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Right above the buildings was a large hillside area consisting of "plain, worn-out, gullied pasture." This offered very little spring pasture on the credit side and "shed water like a duck when it rained"

The field required three diversion terraces, a grass waterway, intensive leveling over the many gullies and careful crop management.

Today it provides three cuttings of alfalfa yearly and holds rain where it falls.

The home place had been strip cropped for many years but in 1952 the strips were put on the contour, resulting in "the land being about like I want it," Greider says.

The schedule also includes soil testing and fertilization

according to the tests. "The only way to raise alfalfa for sure, and just as important for other crops."

The "other crops" include a rotation of tobacco, small grains and corn with alfalfa.

How is it working? The Greiders are handling 75 head of dairy cattle, milking 50. They filled three silos last year and SOLD 50 tons of alfalfa.

So far we have an outstanding testimonial for father-son partnerships, but what else went into making Mark Greider 'Conservation Farmer of the Year.'

Possibly, it was partly reflection of credit due his sons, as he insists. Possibly, in part recognition of a lifetime of service to the community.

Including:  
Twenty-two years as Man- or Twp. supervisor, being a director of the Conestoga Valley Assn, and being a Mountville E.U.B. Church council member.

Mrs. Greider, by the way, is Pres. of her Missionary Society and Farm Women's Society and a member of Montwabia Club.

Much of the decision by the SCD board to name him to the honor came from the fact that Greider not only wholeheartedly practices conservation farming today, but is quick to take every opportunity to sell it to his friends and neighbors.

Whenever he can, he points out, "It's much easier to farm on the contour. Working on the level, it takes a smaller tractor to do a better job of a given operation."

"On this one field, we've seen conservation triple the production. In tobacco this year, we can tell the value of conservation holding ALL the rainfall. The water stays where it falls, to raise crops, instead of running off to dig gullies."

"As township supervisor, I can really tell the difference where conservation is being followed. Less dirt, if any, has to be removed from below contoured fields. Bridges overflow less, if at all, on roads below land that is farmed with conservation practices.

It not only makes me glad he township saves the cost of removing dirt from roads and repairing bridges; but, I am even happier that those farmers are saving their soil and water to farm the next year."

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**Farm Calendar**

July 13—7 00 p m, Chester-Berks-Lancaster Dist SP-ABC Twilight meeting, Ralph and Clarence Stoltzfus farm, Joanna, Rt. 23 between Morgantown and Elverson.

July 14—6 30 p m, 4-H Poultry Judging practice at farms of Glenn and Roy B. Herr, Lancaster RD 7, All poultry project members invited to attend.

July 16—7 30 p m, Garden Spot 4-H Club, Henry Herr farm, Lancaster RD 7

July 16—7:30 p.m., 146th Special Guernsey Sale at

Guernsey Pavilion, Rt. 30 east

July 16—7.00 p m, Chester Co. dist. SPABC Twilight meeting, E.E. Hershey farm, RD 1, Lincoln Univ, 1 mi. east of Russelville

July 17—7:00 p.m., Lancaster Dist. SPABC Twilight meeting, E.J. Sauder farm 1/4 mi. north of Silver Spring

July 22—7 00 p.m, Lebanon Dist. SPABC, Marlin Hitz farm, 1/2 mi. east of Campbelltown on Rt. 222.

July 24—7:00 p.m., Lancaster Dist. SPABC, J. Mowcry Frey farm, one mile east of Willow Street on Rt. 222.

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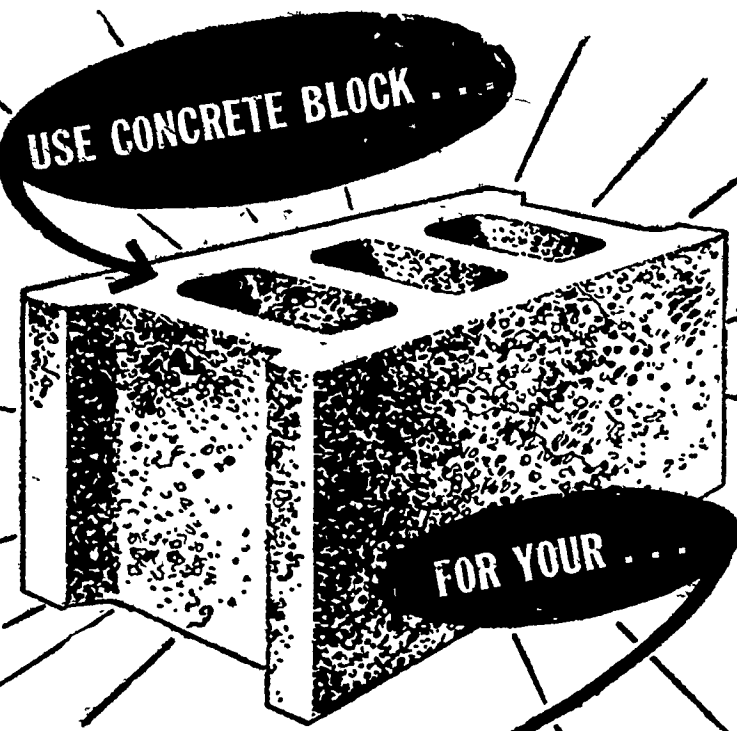
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